

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.

SUBJECT Soviet Intervention in East German Riots DATE DISTR. 19 June 1953

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DATE OF INFO. REQUIREMENT NO. 25X1

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REFERENCES
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1. At 5.15 a.m. on 17 June, 25 T-43 tanks and more than 30 trucks of the 1st Mechanised Division and about 20 trucks of the EVP were seen passing through Schoenefeld coming from the directions of Wasmannsdorf. They assembled east of Treackow Allee, about 200 meters north of the Rummelsburg-Biesdorf railroad line. Some of the tanks had turned off toward the buildings housing the Soviet Control Commission in Karlsdorf. At 10 a.m., the tanks left the assembly area and proceeded, via Stalin Allee, toward the center of the city where they took up positions at intersections and in the government area. About 10 trucks and 200 soldiers of the 1st Mechanised Division remained at the assembly area. The sector boundary in this area was blocked off by Volkspolizei. All elevated and subway traffic in the eastern sector was suspended. EVP continuously arrived by truck and assembled in the suburbs. At noon, 76.2 mm field guns, forty trucks of the 1st Mechanised Division, four armored scout cars and about 300 soldiers were assembled on the avenues west of the Karlshorst race course.

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2. On 17 June, no unusual activity was observed in Eberswalde except for patrols which had been increased to six men.
3. Thirty-five trucks of the 3rd Shock Army were seen passing through Neuhausenleben, coming from the direction of Neuplanken. The trucks carried 400 soldiers armed with sub-machineguns, M1 machineguns, two AT guns, mortars, ammunition and fuel. Tanks were seen between Gross-Amensleben and Ebendorf, proceeding toward Magdeburg because of alleged disturbances there.

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Comment: The available information indicates, as expressed in previous opinions, that the riots were initially a planned action launched by the Soviets with the aim of precipitating the problem of reunification and of creating a favorable setting for it by the removal of Ulbricht and others. The action got out of control,

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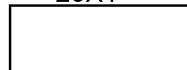
STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
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unleashing resistance forces of unanticipated size. A chain reaction was, however, successfully prevented. The excessive tendencies are being attributed to the harassing actions by western agents.

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>
SUBJECT	Soviet Troop Movements	DATE DISTR.	19 June 1953
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According to official railroad records, 500 boxcars were to be made available in the Stendal-Wittenberge area on 12 June. On 13 June, troops were entrained on 350 cars in Wittenberge. Preparations for loading operations were also observed at the Gloewen railroad station.

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Comment. The assembly of 350 boxcars at the Salzwedel, Packebusch, Stendal and Schoenhausen railroad stations prior to 12 June has also been reported. Troops were unloaded at the Blumenthal railroad station on 5 June. The possibility exists, therefore, that an exercise, which proceeded toward the southwest from the area of Wittstock, was held between 6 and 13 June. The participating units have not yet been identified.

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